

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/928,497

Examiner

Lourdes C. Cruz

Applicant(s)

FUJII ET AL

Art Unit

2827

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to A request for RCE filed 05-19-03
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))
 - * Certified copies not received: _____
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received
6. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 15 April 2003, which has been approved by the Examiner
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF AND/OR INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Larry Anagnos on 06-18-2003.

The examiner has required a change in Title. See MPEP 606.01 *"If a satisfactory title is not supplied by the applicant, the examiner may, at the time of allowance, change the title by examiner's amendment. If the change in the title is the only change being made by the examiner at the time of allowance, a separate examiner's amendment need not be prepared. The examiner is to indicate the change in the title on the file label (or bib-data sheet in 09/ series applications) using BLACK ink and place his or her initials and the date in the margin"* See that the current is an IFW (Image File Wrapper), hence an examiner's amendment was needed in order to change the title.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

Please substitute the title for "Semiconductor Device with Plural Unit Regions in which One or More MOSFETs are formed"

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: There is prior art regarding semiconductor IC devices comprising (See US 5,880,493 to Hidaka) a layout configuration including lines Lc2, Lb1 and FT7 (See "first line," "second line" and "third line," respectively). Also, see "first interconnection (Lc2)," the "second interconnection (Lb1)" and the "third interconnection" (FT7), respectively.

However, according to independent claim 1, as now amended, the invention now calls for the "third line" to have a first terminal electrically connected to said second line, and a second terminal electrically connected to said MOSFET. Moreover, the invention according to independent claim 2, as now amended, also calls for the "third line to (have) a first terminal connected electrically to said second line and a second terminal connected electrically to said circuit." However, such is neither disclosed nor suggested by Hidaka nor by the prior art of record.

Note that the third line (or interconnection) is claimed as being electrically connected to the second line (or second interconnection). See the invention also calls for an array of unit areas, to be connected to a MOSFET (according to claim 1) or to a circuit (according to claim 2) within, for example, a unit area. There must necessarily be a connection between the third line and the second line, in combination with all other structures as claimed. Such, however, is not shown or anticipated by the prior art of record, which fails to either alone or in combination anticipate the invention as claimed.

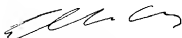
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elle Cruz whose telephone number is 703-306-5691. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Talbott can be reached on 703-305-9883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.



Elle Cruz
June 18, 2003

Lourdes C. Cruz
Examiner
Art Unit 2827

